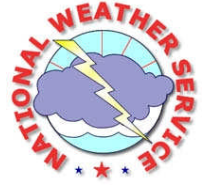




# Drought Information Statement

## WFO Little Rock, AR

Issued: August 10, 2006



### Synopsis

Precipitation events across the state of Arkansas during July and early August were generally brief and spotty in nature, which are common traits for precipitation events for this time of year. Much of the state, particularly across southeast and west central portions, received precipitation amounts that were far less than normal.

### Drought Monitor

The U.S. Drought Monitor is available online at <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>. It is a collaborative effort between several government and academic partners. The U.S. Drought Monitor is issued each Thursday morning and takes into account hydro-meteorological data through 7 AM Tuesday. There are four levels of drought: D1 (moderate), D2 (severe), D3 (extreme), and D4 (exceptional).

The latest U.S. Drought Monitor, issued August 10, 2006 (Figure 1) indicates that D3 (extreme) conditions have developed across extreme southeast portions of Arkansas. D2 (severe) drought conditions exist across other portions of southeast Arkansas, as well as extreme western portions of the state. Conditions meeting the D1 (moderate) category are indicated across much of the rest of the state, except most of the extreme northern sections, which meet the D0 (abnormally dry) category. Further analysis indicates that the D3 conditions in the southeast portion of the state that have developed during the spring and early summer months of 2006 (Figure 2).



#### Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Figure 1 – U.S. Drought Monitor issued August 10, 2006



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: cyan; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 5 class improvement       | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: lightbrown; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 1 class deterioration |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: blue; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 4 class improvement       | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: brown; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 2 class deterioration      |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: green; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 3 class improvement      | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: darkbrown; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 3 class deterioration  |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: lightgreen; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 2 class improvement | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: darkred; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 4 class deterioration    |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 1 class improvement     | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: red; border: 1px solid black;"></span> 5 class deterioration        |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;"></span> unchanged               |  |

Figure 2 – Change in Drought Monitor Classification for the 16 week period ending August 1, 2006 (source: -- NOAA Climate Prediction Center)

## Climate Data and Analysis

An analysis of precipitation for the month of July (Figure 3) indicates that over four inches of rain occurred across north central and northeast Arkansas, as well as portions of the interstate 30 corridor. However, much of state received below normal precipitation amounts for the month (Figure 3). Rainfall for the first week of August was below normal for most reporting stations (Table 2).

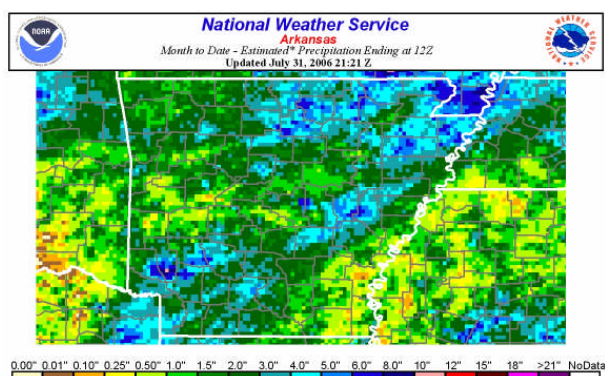


Figure 2 – Rainfall for July 2006

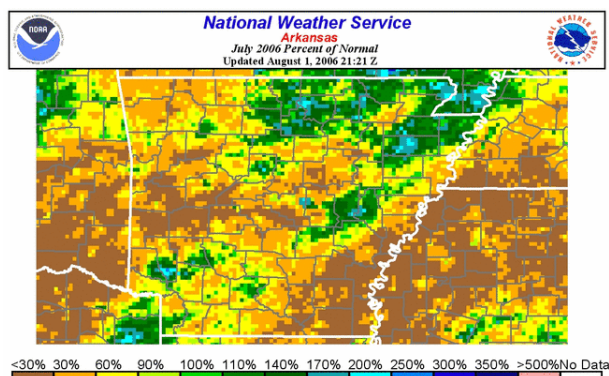


Figure 3 – July 2006 precipitation departure from normal, expressed as a percentage.

| STATION           | Total<br>(inch) | Departure<br>from<br>Normal | Percent<br>of<br>Normal |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| BATESVILLE        | 2.41            | -0.73                       | 77%                     |
| BLYTHEVILLE       | 4.48            | 0.53                        | 113%                    |
| BOONEVILLE        | 1.09            | -2.42                       | 31%                     |
| BRINKLEY          | 2.5             | -0.65                       | 79%                     |
| CALICO ROCK       | 4.28            | 1.21                        | 139%                    |
| CAMDEN            | 4.81            | 0.9                         | 123%                    |
| CLARKSVILLE       | 1.14            | -1.77                       | 39%                     |
| CONWAY            | 1.19            | -1.74                       | 41%                     |
| DARDANELLE        | 1.73            | -1.58                       | 52%                     |
| DEQUEEN           | 1.88            | -2.2                        | 46%                     |
| EL DORADO         | 2.28            | -1.86                       | 55%                     |
| EUDORA            | 0.31            | -3.26                       | 9%                      |
| FAYETTEVILLE      | 1.57            | -1.58                       | 50%                     |
| FORT SMITH        | 1.55            | -1.65                       | 49%                     |
| GILBERT           | 3.14            | 0.51                        | 120%                    |
| GREERS FERRY LAKE | 1.29            | -2.14                       | 38%                     |
| HARRISON          | 2.24            | -0.48                       | 82%                     |
| HOPE              | 1.47            | -2.32                       | 39%                     |
| HOT SPRINGS       | 2.62            | -1.57                       | 63%                     |
| JONESBORO         | 5.41            | 2.68                        | 198%                    |
| KEISER            | 7               | 3.44                        | 197%                    |
| LITTLE ROCK       | 1.63            | -1.69                       | 49%                     |
| MARIANNA          | 1.26            | -2.58                       | 33%                     |
| MENA              | 1.2             | -3.86                       | 24%                     |
| MONTICELLO        | 1.11            | -2.96                       | 27%                     |
| MORRILTON         | 3.53            | 0.69                        | 125%                    |
| MOUNTAIN HOME     | 4.1             | 1.37                        | 150%                    |
| NEWPORT           | 2.05            | -1.27                       | 62%                     |
| N. LITTLE ROCK    | 2.89            | -0.27                       | 92%                     |
| OZARK             | 1.31            | -2.18                       | 38%                     |
| PINE BLUFF        | 1.62            | -2.4                        | 40%                     |
| ROHWER            | 0.08            | -3.72                       | 2%                      |
| STUTTGART         | 2.35            | -0.9                        | 73%                     |
| TEXARKANA         | 2.93            | -0.86                       | 78%                     |
| WARREN            | 0.86            | -3.18                       | 21%                     |
| WEST MEMPHIS      | 1.34            | -1.98                       | 40%                     |

Table 1 – July 2006 Precipitation

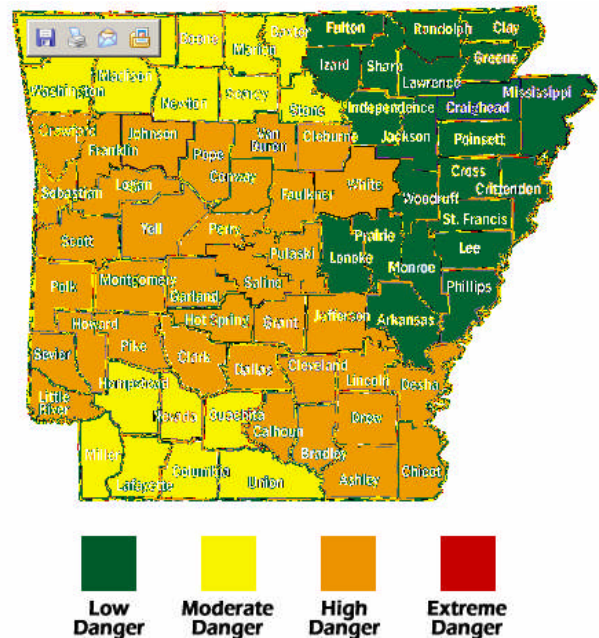
| STATION              | Total<br>(inch) | Departure<br>from<br>Normal | Percent<br>of<br>Normal |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| BATESVILLE           | 0               | -0.67                       | 0%                      |
| BLYTHEVILLE          | 0               | -0.69                       | 0%                      |
| BOONEVILLE           | 0.41            | -0.12                       | 79%                     |
| BRINKLEY             | 0               | -0.57                       | 0%                      |
| CALICO ROCK          | 0.38            | -0.23                       | 63%                     |
| CAMDEN               | 0.35            | -0.35                       | 51%                     |
| CLARKSVILLE          | 0.03            | -0.5                        | 6%                      |
| CONWAY               | 0.15            | -0.41                       | 27%                     |
| DARDANELLE           | 0.04            | -0.6                        | 6%                      |
| DEQUEEN              | 0               | -0.57                       | 0%                      |
| EL DORADO            | 0.2             | -0.57                       | 26%                     |
| EUDORA               | 0.14            | -0.56                       | 20%                     |
| FAYETTEVILLE         | 0               | -0.57                       | 0%                      |
| FORT SMITH           | 0.07            | -0.49                       | 13%                     |
| GILBERT              | 0               | -0.57                       | 0%                      |
| GREERS FERRY<br>LAKE | 0               | -0.63                       | 0%                      |
| HARRISON             | 0               | -0.65                       | 0%                      |
| HOPE                 | 0.09            | -0.68                       | 12%                     |
| HOT SPRINGS          | 0.09            | -0.64                       | 12%                     |
| JONESBORO            | 0               | -0.57                       | 0%                      |
| KEISER               | 0.15            | -0.46                       | 25%                     |
| LITTLE ROCK          | 1.06            | 0.42                        | 168%                    |
| MARIANNA 2S          | 0.03            | -0.65                       | 4%                      |
| MENA                 | 1.45            | 0.8                         | 223%                    |
| MONTICELLO           | 0               | -0.8                        | 0%                      |
| MORRILTON            | 1.45            | 0.96                        | 296%                    |
| MOUNTAIN<br>HOME     | 0               | -0.49                       | 0%                      |
| NEWPORT              | 0               | -0.64                       | 0%                      |
| N. LITTLE ROCK       | 0               | -0.65                       | 0%                      |
| OZARK                | 1.1             | 0.51                        | 186%                    |
| PINE BLUFF           | 0.25            | -0.57                       | 30%                     |
| ROHWER               | 0               | -0.64                       | 0%                      |
| STUTTGART            | 0.35            | -0.18                       | 67%                     |
| TEXARKANA            | 0               | -0.58                       | 0%                      |
| WARREN               | 0.01            | -0.73                       | 1%                      |
| WEST MEMPHIS         | 0               | -0.63                       | 0%                      |

**Table 2 – Weekly precipitation for the period ending 7am August 8, 2006**

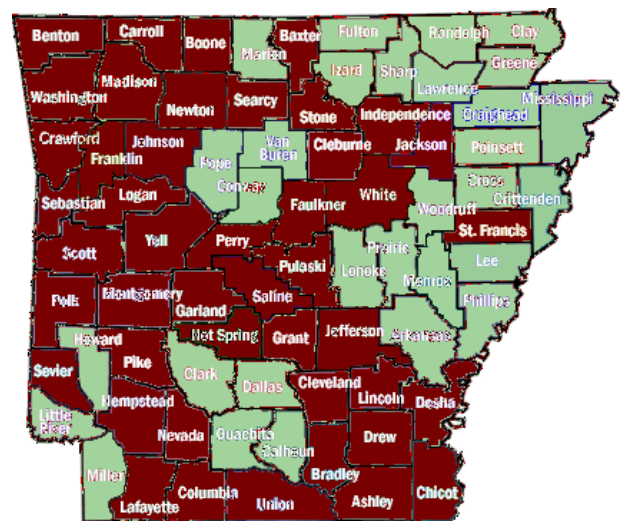
## Impacts

According to the Arkansas Forestry Commission, moderate to high fire danger conditions exist across much of western,

central, and southern portions of the state (Figure 4)



**Figure 4 – Wildfire danger as of August 10, 2006 (source: Arkansas Forestry Commission)**



**Figure 5 – Arkansas county burn bans, as of August 10, 2006 (source: Arkansas Forestry Commission)**

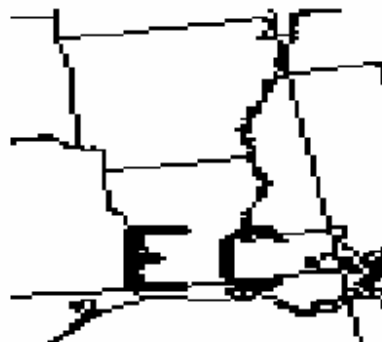
Several communities, including Conway in Faulkner county, and Bryant in Saline county, have enacted water use restrictions.

On many streams in the state, the flow rate is lower than normal. Only those streams in northeast Arkansas and those below hydropower reservoirs are flowing at rates considered to be near normal. The lakes on the White River and tributaries are in the 80 percent full range, except Beaver Lake which is near 70 percent full.

### **Forecast**

A cold front is forecast to approach the state early this weekend, and then will stall across the area. This feature will promote scattered showers and thunderstorms for the weekend.

Concerning longer range forecasts, the precipitation outlook (Figure 5) for August 2006 through October 2006 from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center indicates equal chances for above normal, normal, or below normal precipitation across the state. Equal chances means the probability of the most likely category cannot be determined and the expected likelihoods of above, normal, and below do not differ from their climatological odds of 33 1/3%.



**EC MEANS EQUAL  
CHANCES FOR A,  
A MEANS ABOVE  
N MEANS NORMAL  
B MEANS BELOW**

**Figure 5 -- Precipitation outlook for August-September-October 2006 (source: NOAA Climate Prediction Center)**

### **Contact Information**

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